

Appl. No. 10/625,120  
Amdt. Dated June 2, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004

**REMARKS**

Applicants thank Examiner for acknowledging receipt of foreign priority document, Japanese Application No. JP2002-215848, that has been submitted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119 and/or PCT Rule 17.2(a).

Without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's position, and solely to expedite prosecution, claims 1 and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request Examiner withdraw the Double Patenting rejection under 37 C.F.R. 1.75.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8, 12, and 13. Applicants submit that these claims have been amended solely to improve the language of the claims, and remain in condition for allowance. Applicants have amended claim 2 to include the limitations from allowed claim 8 and that all claims depend on claims having similar limitations.

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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection, and place these claims in condition for allowance.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1794.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/2/05

  
(Reg. #37,607)

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on 6/2/05 in an envelope addressed to:

**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. M. [Signature]" is written over a typed title "Attorney for Applicants".